



BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
OF THE  
**FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM**  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20551

ADDRESS OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE  
TO THE BOARD

June 25, 2019

Ms. Emma Best  
MuckRock News  
DEPT MR 74404  
411A Highland Ave.  
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

*Re: Freedom of Information Act Request No. F-2019-00191*

Dear Ms. Best:

This is in response to your e-mail message dated and received by the Board's Information Disclosure Section on May 30, 2019. Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA"), 5 U.S.C. § 552, you request:

Documents mentioning or relating to Anonymous (the hacker movement/collective, see below) or hacktivism (defined as hacking as a form of protest and/or activism) generated between 1 January 2009 and 1 January 2019, including but not limited to:

- Internal reports, bulletins, warnings and alerts relating to Anonymous or hacktivism
- Reports from the appropriate IT (Information Technology) or computer offices regarding possible cyber attacks by Anonymous or other hacktivists
- Reports, bulletins, warnings and alerts relating to or mentioning Anonymous or hacktivism sent to or received from any federal law enforcement or intelligence agencies or any fusion center
- Incident reports investigating possible hacking activity falling within the office's jurisdiction and allegedly carried out by members of Anonymous or other hacktivist groups

- Materials generated as a result of any suspected or actual compromise, breach or “dox” (revealing of personal or private information) by Anonymous or other hacktivists

To be considered a proper FOIA request, the Board’s Rules Regarding Availability of Information (“Board’s Rules”) require that “[a] request for identifiable records shall reasonably describe the records in a way that enables the Board’s staff to identify and produce the records with reasonable effort and without unduly burdening or significantly interfering with any of the Board’s operations.” 12 C.F.R. § 261.12(b)(1). Your request would require the search and review of documents mentioning or relating to Anonymous or Hacktivism for a period of over 10 years. Such a review would be unduly burdensome and would interfere with the Board’s FOIA and program operations.

Because your request does not comply with the requirements of section 261.12(b)(1) of the Board’s Rules, it is not considered to be a proper FOIA request and, therefore, will not be processed further. *See* 12 C.F.R. § 261.12(d). Should you choose to submit a new request for information on this topic in the future, you may wish to consider limiting your request with greater specificity. Your new request should identify a specific document that you are seeking or narrow the scope of your request in some other way to allow staff to identify and produce records with reasonable effort.<sup>1</sup>

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michele Taylor Fennell', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michele Taylor Fennell  
Assistant Secretary of the Board

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<sup>1</sup> If you have any questions regarding the processing of your request, you may contact our FOIA Public Liaison, Ms. Candace Ambrose, at 202-452-3684 for assistance.